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18 August 1972

MEMORANDUM FOR: Deputy Director for Intelligence

SUBJECT : IG Survey of the National Photographic Interpretation Center (NPIC)

1. Forwarded herewith is a report of the Inspector General's recent survey of the National Photographic Interpretation Center. You have received copies independently. I would appreciate your reviewing this report and advising me of your comments or report of action taken on the recommendations contained therein by 1 November. Thereafter, I would propose to brief the Director on the results.

2. I hope you will find the survey as well written and useful as my initial impression. I find the survey quite accurate in its reflection of the high regard in which NPIC and its production is regarded in the highest levels of our Government. Truly, "The House that Art Built" is a magnificent accomplishment, and all concerned with it have a right to be proud of its contribution to our national security and the intelligence profession. Of particular importance, of course, is the fashion in which the state of the art has been pushed to new frontiers over the past years, as a result of which our Government's knowledge of threats to its national security has been enormously increased.

3. Beneath the overriding fact of the Center's reputation, the survey quite aptly points out a number of aspects of the Center in which improvements might be appropriate. With pressures easily predictable upon the Center for additional coverage and upon the resource level to be committed to the intelligence community, it is certainly appropriate to look at any areas where greater effectiveness or greater economy might be achieved. This in no way derogates from the importance or the value of accomplishments to date.

4. A most interesting element of the report is its comment on the National Tasking Plan and the extent of the requirements laid upon NPIC (Recommendation No. 1). The National Tasking Plan, COMIREX, and EXSUBCOM are obviously highly appropriate mechanisms to integrate the

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